

IS AMERICA DOOMED? (PART III)

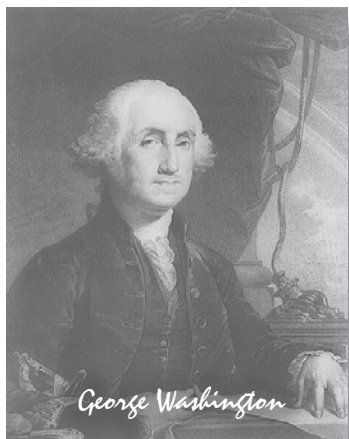
Dave Miller, Ph.D.

[EDITORS' NOTE: This article is the third installment in a three-part series based on the author's seminar and soon-to-be-released book—*The Silencing of God: The Dismantling of America's Christian Heritage*. Parts I and II appeared in the September and October issues. Part III follows below, and continues, without introductory comments, where the second article ended.]

...ACCORDING TO THE FOUNDERS?

The Founders knew these biblical facts—and anticipated that America could fall prey to the same sad situation. On March 11, 1792, the Father of our country made the following statement—one that is particularly chilling in view of the specter of terrorism that hangs over the nation:

I am sure there never was a people who had more reason to acknowledge a Divine interposition in their affairs than those of the United States; and I



should be pained to believe that **they have forgotten that Agency** which was so often manifested during our revolution, or that they failed to consider the omnipotence of that God **who is alone able to protect them** (Washington, 1838, 10:222-223, emp. added).

Undoubtedly, America has the greatest, most technologically sophisticated military in human history. Yet, according to the first Commander-in-Chief of America's armed forces, God **alone** is able to protect the country. He was merely echoing Scripture. Read carefully the words of the psalmist:

No king is saved by the multitude of an army; a mighty man is not delivered by great strength. A horse is a vain hope for safety; neither shall it deliver any by its great strength. Behold, the eye of the Lord is on **those who fear Him**, on **those who hope in His mercy**, to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine (33:16-19, emp. added).

In the final analysis, all of the Apache attack helicopters, Tomahawk subsonic cruise missiles, nuclear warheads, and sophisticated military weaponry that American ingenuity has created, will not save America. Rather, only God can preserve us—and His protective care is extended only to **those who fear Him**. But should America make preparations for defense? Certainly. The Bible declares: "The horse is **prepared** for the day of battle, **but deliverance is of the Lord**"

(Proverbs 21:31, emp. added). We should make preparations for the defense of the nation against outside forces; but we must keep ever before us the fact that deliverance from enemies comes ultimately from God—not man. And God extends His assistance to the virtuous and righteous—as noted by Patrick Henry:

Whether this will prove a blessing or a curse, will depend upon the use our people make of the blessings which a gracious God hath bestowed on us. If they are wise, they will be great and happy. If they are of a contrary character, they will be miserable.

CONTENTS

ARTICLES

Is America Doomed? (Part III)

Dave Miller. 81

DEPARTMENTS

Speaking Schedules 85

Note from the Editor

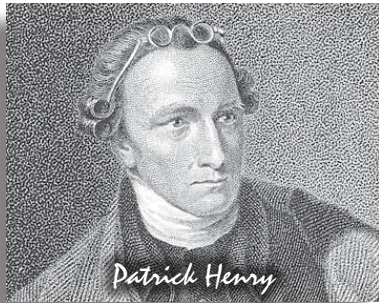
New Book: *The Dinosaur Delusion* 88

RESOURCES

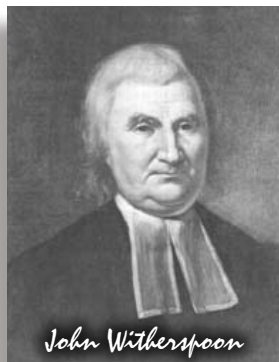
Adult Cells Still the Better Option 41-R

PUBLIC DEBATE. 44-R

www.ApologicsPress.org

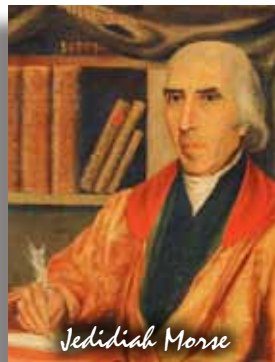


Righteousness **alone** can exalt them as a nation. Reader! Whoever thou art, remember this; and in thy sphere practice virtue thyself, and encourage it in others” (1891, 1:81-82, emp. added). “The great pillars of all government and of social life: I mean virtue, morality, and religion. **This is the armor, my friend, and this alone, that renders us invincible**” (1891, 2:592, emp. added).



John Witherspoon echoed precisely the same sentiment: “He who makes a people virtuous makes them invincible” (1815, 9:231).

Another uncanny, prophetic warning was issued by Jedidiah Morse, the “Father of American Geography” and father of Samuel Morse, the inventor of the Morse Code (see “Morse, Jedidiah,” 2007). In an election sermon given at



Charlestown, Massachusetts on April 25, 1799, this American patriot offered the following frightening warning—an observation not unlike those of many of the Founders:

The foundations which support the interest of Christianity, are also necessary to support a free and equal government like our own. In all those countries where there is little or no religion, or a very gross and corrupt

one, as in Mahometan and Pagan countries, there you will find, with scarcely a single exception, arbitrary and tyrannical governments, gross ignorance and wickedness, and deplorable wretchedness among the people. **To the kindly influence of Christianity we owe that degree of civil freedom, and political and social happiness which mankind now enjoy.** In proportion as the genuine effects of Christianity are diminished in any nation, either through unbelief, or the corruption of its doctrines, or the neglect of its institutions; **in the same proportion will the people of that nation recede from the blessings of genuine freedom, and approximate the miseries of complete despotism.** I hold this to be a truth confirmed by experience. If so, it follows, that all efforts made to destroy the foundations of our holy religion, ultimately tend to the subversion also of our political freedom and happiness. **Whenever the pillars of Christianity shall be overthrown, our present republican forms of government, and all the blessings which flow from them, must fall with them** (1799, p. 9, emp. added).

Recall the somber warning of *Declaration* signer Charles Carroll of Carrollton, in a letter written to fellow Founder and signer of the federal *Constitution*, James McHenry, on November 4, 1800:

Without morals a republic cannot subsist any length of time; they therefore who are decrying the Christian religion, whose morality is so sublime and pure...are undermining the solid foundation of morals, **the best security for the duration of free governments** (as quoted in Steiner, 1907, p. 475, emp. added).



Reason & Revelation is published monthly by Apologetics Press, Inc. Periodicals postage paid at Montgomery, AL. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to **Reason & Revelation**, 230 Landmark Dr., Montgomery, AL 36117; **ISSN:**[1542-0922] **USPS** # 023415.

Apologetics Press is a non-profit, tax-exempt work dedicated to the defense of New Testament Christianity. Copyright © 2008. All rights reserved.

Editor:

Dave Miller, Ph.D.*
(*Communication, Southern Illinois University)

Associate Editor:

Kyle Butt, M.A.*
(*New Testament, Freed-Hardeman University)

Annual Subscription Rates:

\$10.00 Domestic
\$ 8.00 Domestic Bulk
(5+ to same address)
\$16.00 Canada & Overseas Airmail

General inquiries, changes of address, or international callers:

Phone: (334) 272-8558
Fax: (334) 270-2002

Orders:

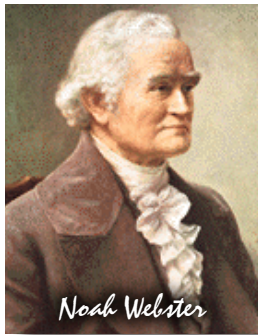
Phone: (800) 234-8558
Fax: (800) 234-2882

On-line Web store/catalog, subscription order/renewal form, current issues, archives, and other information (all orders processed on a secure server):

URL: www.ApologeticsPress.org
URL: www.ApologeticsPress.org/espanol
E-mail: mail@ApologeticsPress.org

Discovery—Scripture & Science for Kids is a sister publication for children. For more information, please contact our offices or visit the Discovery Web site at:

URL: www.DiscoveryMagazine.com



Noah Webster

Noah Webster sounded the same warning:

[T]he Christian religion, in its purity, is the basis, or rather the source of all genuine freedom in government.... [A]nd I am persuaded that no civil government of a republican form **can exist and be durable** in which the principles of that religion have not a controlling influence (as quoted in Snyder, 1990, p. 283, emp. added).

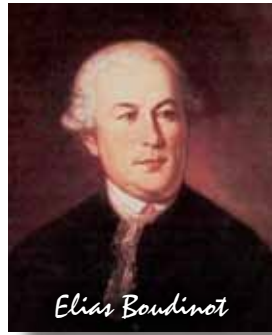
Elias Boudinot, president of the Continental Congress (1782-1783), articulated precisely the same point, when he expressed his “anxious desire” that: our country should be preserved from the dreadful evil of becoming enemies to the religion of the Gospel, which I have no doubt, but would be introductive of **the dissolution of government and the bonds of civil society** (1801, p. xxii, emp. added).

Declaration signer and Connecticut governor, Samuel Huntington, agreed, as indicated by his remarks on January 9, 1788 at the state convention debating ratification of the federal *Constitution*:

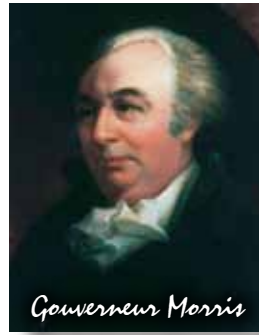
While the great body of freeholders are acquainted with the duties which they owe to their God, to themselves, and to men, they will remain free. **But if ignorance and depravity should prevail, they will inevitably lead to slavery and ruin** (as quoted in Elliott, 1836, 2:200, emp. added).



Samuel Huntington



Elias Boudinot



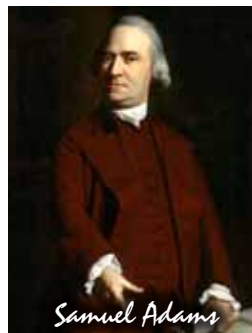
Gouverneur Morris

Signer of the *Constitution*, Gouverneur Morris, insisted in a speech delivered September 4, 1816:

There must be religion. When that ligament is torn, **society is disjointed and its members perish**. The nation is exposed to **foreign violence and domestic convulsion**. Vicious rulers, chosen by vicious people, turn back the current of corruption to its source. Placed in a situation where they can exercise authority for their own emolument, they betray their trust. They take bribes. They sell statutes and decrees. They sell honor and office. They sell their conscience. They sell their country. By this vile traffic they become odious and contemptible.... But the most important of all lessons is the denunciation of **ruin to every State that rejects the precepts of religion**” (1821, pp. 32,34, emp. added).

Declaration signer and “The Father of the American Revolution,” Samuel Adams, likewise issued a solemn warning in a letter to James Warren on February 12, 1779:

A general dissolution of the principles and manners will more surely overthrow the liberties of America than the whole force of the common enemy. While the people are virtuous, they cannot be subdued; but when once they lose their virtue, **they will be ready to surrender their liberties to**

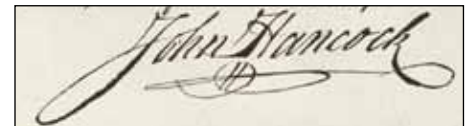


Samuel Adams

the first external or internal invader (1908, 4:124, emp. added).

In his inaugural address as the Governor of Massachusetts in 1780, Founder John Hancock insisted that both our freedom and our very existence as a Republic will be determined by public attachment to Christian morality:

Sensible of **the importance of Christian piety and virtue** to the order and happiness of a state, I cannot but earnestly commend to you every measure for their support and encouragement.... Manners, by which not only the freedom, but **the very existence of the republics**, are greatly affected, depend much upon the public institutions of religion and the good education of youth (as quoted in Brown, 1898, p. 269, emp. added).



Revolutionary War soldier and U.S. Federal judge appointed by President John Adams, Jeremiah Smith, declared in an oration on February 22, 1800:

[C]herish and promote the interest of knowledge, virtue and religion. They are **indispensable to the support of any free government**.... Let it never be forgotten that **there can be no genuine freedom** where there is no morality, and no sound morality where there is no religion” (as quoted in Atherton, 1800, p. 81, emp. added).

The words of *Declaration* signer John Witherspoon are frightening: “Nothing is more certain than that a general profligacy and corruption of manners make a people **ripe for destruction**” (1802, 3:41, emp. added).

Observe: According to the Framers and Founders, the American republic cannot last any length of time when Christian morals do not characterize the people; no civil government of a republic can exist and last without the controlling influence of Christian principles; the government and civility in society will dissolve if the citizens become enemies of Christianity; ignorance of one's duty to God and depravity will lead to slavery and ruin; without religion, foreign violence, domestic convulsion and ruin result; abandoning Christian virtue will result in submission to invaders; there can be no genuine freedom where religion and morality are lost; and we will then be ripe for destruction. There is no doubt that the Founders were single-minded in their recognition of the same fact: if Christianity, Christian morality, and devotion to the God of the Bible dissipate in America, **we cannot perpetuate our national existence—and the nation is doomed.**

CONCLUSION

In a speech delivered on February 23, 1852, second generation American, Daniel Webster, likewise warned what would happen to America if she ever displaced God from His rightful position over the nation. His words are eerily prophetic in that they now describe America “to a T”:

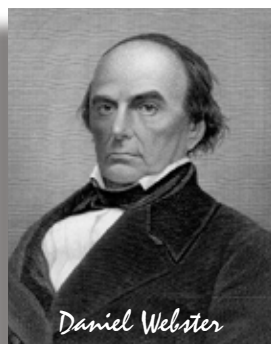
[I]f we and our posterity reject religious instruction and authority, violate the rules of eternal justice, trifle with the injunctions of morality, and recklessly destroy the political constitution which holds us together, **no man can tell how sudden a catastrophe may overwhelm us that shall bury all our**

glory in profound obscurity (1903, 13:492-493, emp. added).

Ask yourself four questions—**#1:** Are Americans—on a widespread scale—**rejecting Christian instruction and authority?** *The polls show that fewer and fewer attend church service or follow the Bible.* **#2:** Are Americans **violating the rules of eternal justice?** *Look at the unprecedented numbers of lawbreakers occupying overcrowded prisons, and the shift in the justice system that commenced in the 1960s favoring the “rights” of the criminal.* **#3:** Are Americans **trifling with the injunctions of morality?** *Unbelievably, we are actually having a national discussion (battle) on how to define marriage!* **#4:** Are Americans **recklessly destroying the Constitution?** *Liberal Supreme Court justices reject strict constructionist interpretation and insist on looking to the courts of the world for their opinions, while federal judges legislate from the bench—even overriding majority votes of the people.* The haunting answer to these four questions is a resounding “Yes!” **How, then, can we as a nation possibly escape catastrophe?** We cannot. We will not.

If this pattern of eventual divine retribution has repeated itself many times over throughout world history, and if God is immutable, i.e., He does not change (Numbers 23:19; Malachi 3:6), and if “God still rules in the kingdoms of men” (Daniel 4:17), will He not respond to America’s iniquity in the same fashion? Yes, He will. We ought to expect God to react to America’s degradation in two ways: (1) unleash upon, or at least refrain from protecting, the country (or specific localities within the country) natural disasters (read the Old Testament book of Joel); or (2) allow hostile enemies to

inflict casualties and suffering upon us (read Habakkuk). It is interesting that the Founding Fathers recognized this eternal principle as having been posited in the fabric of the Universe by the Creator. They understood that while God will judge each individual human being at the Judgment when Christ returns (e.g., 2 Corinthians 5:10), He judges nations **in history, in time**, by bringing destruction upon them when their iniquity is “full” (Genesis 15:16; cf. Miller, 2005). That is why Luther Martin, a delegate to the federal Constitutional Convention, stated in 1788: “It was said, it ought to be considered, that national crimes can only be, and frequently are, **punished in this world by national punishments**” (as quoted in Elliott, 1836, 1:374, emp. added). As the Father of the Bill of Rights, George Mason, affirmed to his fellow delegates to the Constitutional Convention on August 22, 1787: “As nations cannot be rewarded or punished in the next world, so they must be in this. By an inevitable chain of causes and effects, **Providence punishes national sins by national calamities**” (as quoted in Madison, 1840, 3:1391, emp. added). The “Father of the American Revolution” and signer of the *Declaration of Independence*, Samuel Adams, explained: “Revelation assures us that ‘Righteousness exalteth a nation.’ Communities are dealt with **in this world** by the wise and just Ruler of the Universe. **He rewards or punishes them** according to their general character” (1907, 3:286, emp. added). Thomas Jefferson likewise warned: “I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just: that **His justice cannot sleep forever**” (1781, Query 18, p. 237, emp. added). Indeed, it is just a matter of time.



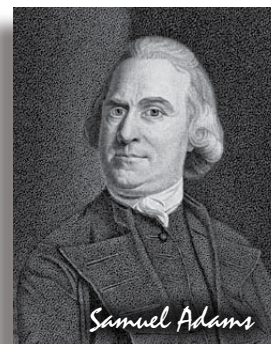
Daniel Webster



Luther Martin



George Mason



Samuel Adams

Adult Cells Still the Better Option for Therapeutic Research

Caleb Colley, B.A., B.S.

For years, ethical issues have plagued the development of embryonic stem-cell research in America (cf. Bush, 2001). Despite its slight potential for therapeutic benefits in the distant future, embryonic stem-cell research has been shown to be unethical because it necessitates killing people (see Thompson and Harrub, 2001; cf. Gibson, 2007; Colley, 2007b). Scientists also have known for several years that **adult** stem-cell research has yielded greater results than embryonic stem-cell research (see Harrub and Thompson, 2004; Saunders and Prentice, 2006; “Stem Cell Research: Facts...,” 2001; Miller, 2007). Unlike embryonic stem cells, however, adult stem cells are only partially pluripotent, “capable of forming several cell types—principally blood, muscle, and nerve cells. It has been possible to recognize, select, and develop them to the point that they form mature cell types with the help of growth factors and regulating proteins” (Lillge, 2001; cf. “Stem Cell Basics,” 2006). In 2007, researchers determined that adult stem cells may be **transformed** into “blank slates that should be able to turn into any of the 220 cell types of the human body, be it heart, brain, blood or bone” (Kolata, 2007). This method allows for the development of truly pluripotent cells without resorting to “therapeutic” cloning or the destruction of embryos (see Kolata). Stem cells from adults may offer hope of developing therapies for patients suffering from diseases such as diabetes, Parkinson’s, and Alzheimer’s (see Takahashi, et al., 2007; cf. McIlroy, 2007; Colley, 2007a).

Not only have scientists changed adult stem cells into “iPS,” or pluripotent cells that carry the same possibilities for regenerative medicine as do embryonic stem cells (see Vogel and Holden, 2007), but now scientists have “transformed one type of fully developed adult cell directly into another inside a living animal” (Stein, 2008). Harvard biologists have “pinpointed three crucial molecular switches that, when flipped, completely convert a common [adult] cell in the pancreas into the more precious insulin-producing ones that diabetics need to survive” (Stein, bracketed item added; cf. Zhou, et al., 2007). This raises the possibility that “patients suffering from not only diabetes but also heart disease, strokes and many other ailments could eventually have some of their cells reprogrammed to cure their afflictions without the need for drugs, transplants or other therapies” (Stein). Zhou and colleagues discussed their research, in *Nature*:

Here...we identify a specific combination of three transcription factors (Ngn3 (also known

as Neurog3) Pdx1 and Maf) that reprograms differentiated pancreatic exocrine cells in adult mice into cells that closely resemble β -cells. **The induced β -cells are indistinguishable from endogenous islet β -cells in size, shape and ultrastructure. They express genes essential for β -cell function and can ameliorate hyperglycaemia** by remodelling [sic] local vasculature and secreting insulin. This study provides an example of cellular reprogramming using defined factors in an adult organ and suggests a general paradigm for directing cell reprogramming without reversion to a pluripotent stem cell state (2008, parenthetical items in orig., emp. added).

Researchers in the field of regenerative medicine have grand dreams of using **adult** cells to replace conventional surgery with a sort of genetic substitution (see Stein, 2008).

Those of us at Apologetics Press continue to pray that the Creator’s view of the matter will be paramount in the minds of those who push our society to new limits of biological inquiry. Embryonic stem-cell research is unscriptural and unethical. The scientific community is making it increasingly clear that embryonic stem-cell research is also unnecessary.

REFERENCES

- Bush, George W. (2001), “Remarks by the President on Stem-Cell Research,” [On-line], URL: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2001/08/20010809-2.html>.
- Colley, Caleb (2007a), “Adult Stem Cells Match the Potential of Embryonic Stem Cells,” [On-line], URL: <http://www.apologeticspress.org/articles/3551>.
- Colley, Caleb (2007b), “Therapeutic Embryonic Stem-Cell Research ‘Just Not Realistic,’” [On-line], URL: <http://www.apologeticspress.org/articles/3504>.
- Gibson, Robert (2007), “Stem Cell Research Is Good News for Heart Patients,” *The Epoch Times*, [On-line], URL: <http://en.epochtimes.com/news/7-10-11/60678.html>.
- Harrub, Brad and Bert Thompson (2004), “Presidential Elections, Superman, Embryonic Stem Cells, Bad Science, and False Hope,” [On-line], URL: <http://www.apologeticspress.org/articles/2621>.
- Kolata, Gina (2007), “Scientists Bypass Need for Embryo to Get Stem Cells,” *The New York Times*, [On-line], URL: <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/11/21/science/21stem.html>.
- Lillge, Wolfgang (2001), “The Case for Adult Stem Cell Research,” *21st Century Science and Technology Magazine*, [On-line], URL: <http://www.21stcenturymagazine.com>.



- www.21stcenturysciencetech.com/articles/winter01/stem_cell.html.
- McIlroy, Anne (2007), "Stem-Cell Method Hailed as 'Massive Breakthrough,'" *The Globe and Mail*, [On-line], URL: <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20071121.wstemcells21/BNStory/Science/home>.
- Miller, Dave (2007), "Adult Stem-Cell Research," [On-line], URL: <http://www.apologeticspress.org/articles/3272>.
- Saunders, William L., Jr., and David Prentice (2006), "Adult Stem Cell Treatments—Nine Faces of Success" (Washington, D.C.: Family Research Council), a tract.
- Stein, Rob (2008), "Scientists Reprogram Adult Cells' Function," *The Washington Post*, [On-line], URL: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/08/27/AR2008082701829.html>.
- "Stem Cell Basics" (2006), The National Institutes of Health, [On-line], URL: <http://stemcells.nih.gov/info/basics/basics5.asp>.
- "Stem Cell Research: Facts and Fallacies" (2001), National Right to Life, [On-line], URL: http://www.nrlc.org/Factsheets/FS08_StemCellResearch.pdf.
- Takahashi, Kazutoshi, et al. (2007), "Induction of Pluripotent Stem Cells from Adult Human Fibroblasts by Defined Factors," *Cell*, 131:1-12, November, [On-line], URL: <http://images.cell.com/images/Edimages/Cell/IEPs/3661.pdf>.
- Thompson, Bert and Brad Harrub (2001), "Human Cloning and Stem-Cell Research—Science's 'Slippery Slope' [Part III]," [On-line], URL: <http://www.apologeticspress.org/articles/2510>.
- Vogel, Gretchen and Constance Holden (2007), "Field Leaps Forward With New Stem Cell Advances," *Science*, 318:1224-1225, November 23.
- Zhou, Qiao, et al. (2008), "In Vivo Reprogramming of Adult Pancreatic Exocrine Cells to b-Cells," *Nature*, [On-line], URL: <http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/vaop/ncurrent/abs/nature07314.html>.

IN THE NEWS

PUBLIC DEBATE

Proposition:

I Know that the God of the Bible Does Not Exist

Affirm: Dan Barker

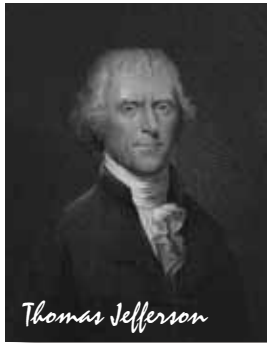
Co-president, Freedom from Religion Foundation
Former charismatic preacher turned atheist
Frequent debater (over 64 formal debates)
Author of *Losing Faith in Faith and Godless*

Deny: Kyle Butt

Apologetics Press
Gospel Preacher, author, lecturer
M.A. (Freed-Hardeman University)
Editor of *Discovery*, Associate Editor of *Reason & Revelation*
Author of *Out With Doubt* and *Behold! The Word of God*
Co-author of *Behold! The Lamb of God* and *Surveying the Evidence*

University of South Carolina
Columbia, South Carolina
Russell House Ballroom

February 12, 2009
7:00 p.m.



Thomas Jefferson

Since America is committing national suicide by its morally insane behavior, turning its back on God, disaster is the inevitable result.

Observe carefully how the words of Judges 2:10 so aptly describe the cataclysmic shift that has taken place in America between the World War II generation—considered by some “the greatest generation any society has ever produced” (“Tom Brokaw...”)—and the three that have come after: “When all that generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation arose after them who did not know the Lord nor the work which He had done for Israel.” Since World War II, succeeding generations of Americans no longer acknowledge God and Christ, and they are woefully ignorant of what God has done for America. The Founders would have had a hard time imagining that such could ever happen here, as George Washington expressed on June 29, 1788:

No country upon earth ever had it more in its power to attain these

blessings than United America. Wondrously strange, then, and much to be regretted indeed would it be, were we to neglect the means and to depart from the road which Providence has pointed us to so plainly; **I cannot believe it will ever come to pass** (Series 2, Letterbook 15, Image 172, emp. added).

A similar, striking resemblance may be seen in the warning God issued to Solomon and the nation over which he served as king:

[I]f My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer made in this place.... But **if you turn away and forsake My statutes and My commandments which I have set before you, and go and serve other**



George Washington

gods, and worship them, then I will uproot them from My land which I have given them; and this house which I have sanctified for My name I will cast out of My sight, and will make it a proverb and a byword among all peoples.... [E]veryone who passes by it will be astonished and say, “Why has the Lord done thus to this land and this house?” Then they will answer, “Because they forsook the Lord God of their fathers...and embraced other gods, and worshiped them and served them; **therefore He has brought all this calamity on them** (2 Chronicles 7:14-22, emp. added; cf. Deuteronomy 29:19-28).

After recounting the blessings that God bestowed upon them by giving them a bountiful land, prosperity, comfort, and wealth, God issued a warning to the Israelites. Although spoken 3,500 years ago, these words sound remarkably descriptive of America:

Beware that you do not forget the LORD your God by not keeping His commandments, His judgments, and His statutes which I command you to-day, lest—when you have eaten and are full, and have built beautiful houses and dwell in them; and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold are multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied; when your heart is lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God... and follow other gods, and serve them and worship them, **I testify against you this day that you shall surely perish. As the nations which the LORD destroys before you, so you shall perish, because you would not be obedient to the voice of the LORD your God** (Deuteronomy 8:11-14,19-20, emp. added).

Sadly, it happened. Years later, Nehemiah (9:23-31) recounted their disobedience and rebellion in which they “cast [God’s] law behind their backs” (vs. 26), and “shrugged their shoulders, stiffened their necks, and would not hear” God’s words (vs. 29). Consequently, God “delivered [them] into the hand of their enemies” (vss. 27,28,30).

As the population of America continues its progressive entrenchment against God, the outcome is inevitable: “The wicked shall be turned into hell, and **all nations that forget God**” (Psalm 9:17,

SPEAKING SCHEDULES

Kyle Butt

November 7-9 Alithia Springs, GA (770) 941-4100

Eric Lyons

November 14-16 Linden, AL (334) 295-8365

November 30 Wetumpka, AL (334) 567-6561

Dave Miller

November 1-2 Pataskala, OH (740) 927-0086

November 7 Mechanicsville, VA (804) 746-8224

November 14-16 Stockton, CA (209) 464-8279

emp. added). Indeed, as Americans turn their back on the God of their fathers, so God will cease to bestow His protection and blessings. “Shall I not punish them for these things?” says the Lord. ‘Shall I not avenge Myself on such a nation as this?’” (Jeremiah 5:9,29; 9:9).

The only hope for America is to experience a nationwide spiritual awakening by returning to God and begging His forgiveness. “Return to Me, and I will return to you,’ says the Lord of hosts” (Malachi 3:7). Our only hope is for a sizeable percentage of Americans to rise up and act upon the factuality of the psalmist’s words: “Let all the earth fear the Lord; Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.... **Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord**” (33:8,12). God help us. If it be His will, may God save the United States of America.

REFERENCES

- Adams, Samuel (1904-1908), *The Writings of Samuel Adams*, ed. Harry Cushing (New York: G.P. Putnam’s Sons).
- Atherton, Charles (1800), *A Selection of Orations and Eulogies Pronounced in Different Parts of the United States In Commemoration of the Life, Virtue, and Preeminent Services of Gen. George Washington* (Amherst, NY: Samuel Preston).
- Boudinot, Elias (1801), *The Age of Revelation* (Philadelphia, PA: Asbury Dickins), [On-line], URL: <http://www.google.com/books?id=XpcPAAAAIAAJ>.
- Brown, Abram (1898), *John Hancock, His Book* (Boston, MA: Lee & Shepard Publishers), [On-line], URL: <http://www.archive.org/details/johnhancock00browrich>.
- Elliott, Jonathan, ed. (1836), *The Debates in the Several State Conventions* (Washington, DC: Jonathan Elliott), [On-line], URL: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lwed.html>.
- Henry, Patrick (1891), *Patrick Henry; Life, Correspondence and Speeches*, ed. William Henry (New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons), [On-line], URL: <http://www.archive.org/details/pathenrylife01henrrich>.
- Jefferson, Thomas (1781), *Notes on the State of Virginia*, The Avalon Project at Yale Law School, [On-line], URL: <http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/jevifram.htm>.
- Madison, James (1840), *The Papers of James Madison*, ed. Henry Gilpin (Washington, D.C.: Langtree & O’Sullivan).
- Miller, Dave (2005), “Is America’s Iniquity Full?,” Apologetics Press, [On-line]: URL: <http://www.apologeticspress.org/articles/305>.
- Morris, Gouverneur (1821), “An Inaugural Discourse Delivered Before the New York Historical Society by the Honorable Gouverneur Morris on September 4, 1816” in *Collections of the New York Historical Society for the Year 1821* (New York: E. Bliss & E. White).
- Morse, Jedidiah (1799), *A Sermon, Exhibiting the Present Dangers and Consequent Duties of the Citizens of the United States of America* (Hartford, CT: Hudson and Goodwin), [On-line]: URL: <http://www.archive.org/details/sermonexhibiting00morsrich>.
- “Morse, Jedidiah” (2007), *Encyclopædia Britannica*, [On-line]: URL: <http://www.britannica.com/eb/article-9053833>.
- Snyder, K. Alan (1990), *Defining Noah Webster: Mind and Morals in the Early Republic* (New York: University Press of America).
- Steiner, Bernard (1907), *The Life and Correspondence of James McHenry* (Cleveland, OH: Burrows Brothers).
- “Tom Brokaw Books: The Greatest Generation,” [On-line], URL: http://www.randomhouse.com/features/brokaw/books_greatest.html.
- Washington, George (1788), “George Washington to Benjamin Lincoln, June 29, 1788,” *George Washington Papers at the Library of Congress, 1741-1799*, [On-line], URL: http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/P?mgw:1:/temp/~amem_iCgG::
- Washington, George (1838), *The Writings of George Washington*, ed. Jared Sparks (Boston, MA: American Stationers).
- Webster, Daniel (1903), *The Writings and Speeches of Daniel Webster* (Boston, MA: Little, Brown, & Co.).
- Witherspoon, John (1802), *The Works of the Reverend John Witherspoon* (Philadelphia, PA: William Woodard).
- Witherspoon, John (1815), *The Works of John Witherspoon* (Edinburgh: J. Ogle).

“Domestic Convulsion”

Dave Miller, Ph.D.

The Founders of the American Republic were well-informed, educated, intelligent men. When it came to establishing a republic, they did their homework. They familiarized themselves with history and grasped the principles and lessons to be learned from the past. They understood not only how to initiate a new nation, but also recognized what would be necessary to perpetuate and sustain it. What’s more, they articulated very firmly the circumstances that they predicted would lead to the dissolution of the Republic.

One such political prophet was Gouverneur Morris (1752-1816). Having graduated from King’s College (now Columbia University) in New York, Morris was admitted to the colonial bar in 1771 and became a member of the New York provincial congress from 1775-1777. He served as a Lieutenant Colonel in the New York State militia in 1776. He was a member of the Continental Congress in 1778-1779, and signed the *Articles of Confederation*. He was a delegate to the convention that framed the *Constitution of the United States*, speaking more than any other delegate, and serving as the head of the Committee on Style that was responsible for the final wording of the *Constitution*—which he signed in 1787. He then served as America’s Minister Plenipotentiary to France (1792-1794) and also served in the U.S. Senate from 1800-1803. He is buried in St. Anne’s Episcopal Churchyard in the Bronx in New York (“Morris...,” n.d.).

On September 4, 1816, just two months before his death, Gouverneur Morris delivered a speech to the New York Historical Society on the occasion of the 206th anniversary of the discovery of his home state of New York by English explorer Henry Hudson (Morris, 1816). In that oration, Morris made several insightful, eerily descriptive observations of current American culture. First, he insisted that the Bible is the key to making sense of history and learning from the mistakes of the past: “The reflection and experience of many years have led



me to consider the holy writings, not only as most authentic and instructive in themselves, but as the clue to all other history. They tell us what man is, and they, alone, tell us why he is what he is" (pp. 7-8). Making brief allusion to the biblical characters Joseph, Moses, and David, Morris explained:

From the same pure Fountain of Wisdom [i.e., the Bible—DM] we learn that **vice destroys freedom**; that arbitrary power is founded on **public immorality**, and that misconduct in those who rule a republic, necessary consequence of general licentiousness, so **disgusts and degrades the nation**, that, dead to generous sentiment, they become willing slaves.... Then laws to protect the weak against the strong, the innocent against the wicked, become **instruments of oppression and torture** (pp. 8-9, emp. added).

One would have difficulty finding a more applicable description of what has happened to America in the last 50 years—from the widespread surge of crime and immorality, to the governmental encroachments on personal freedom, and the use of those legions of laws to favor the lawbreaker over the victim, as well as promote hedonism.

Second, Morris insisted that the "profound lesson of political wisdom" to be learned from 1 Samuel 8, acknowledged by such authors as Machiavelli and Montesquieu, is that "virtue is the principle of republics" (p. 10). Even the government that God Himself set up (i.e., for the Israelites) "became intolerable from the prevalence of vice and impiety" (p. 10). Here, again, is an uncanny anticipation of America's present spiritual condition. Vice, impiety, immorality, and crime are rampant and continue to increase. What can be done?

Morris noted that man is governed by hope and fear. People are motivated by hope when their desires for pleasure,

wealth, and power are achieved. They are motivated by fear when they are able to avoid poverty, pain, and death. They are likewise governed by "prompt generous reward" and "speedy severe punishment." These "are the human means to invigorate duty, stimulate zeal, correct perversity, and restrain guilt" (p. 10). However, these tools are insufficient. After all, is not America the wealthiest nation in human history, having provided for a larger percentage of her citizenry a higher standard of living than any previous civilization? And is it not the case that Americans experience more pleasure, wealth, and power, and have surpassed all previous human progress in reducing poverty, masking pain, and postponing death? Yet, despite these incredible advancements, America is experiencing widespread social chaos and moral decline—in the government, school, workplace, and home. As Morris foreshadowed: "criminals escape punishment, by the perpetration of new and more atrocious crimes" (p. 10).

So something more is needed. Morris pinpointed that "something":

Something more, then, is required to encourage virtue, suppress vice, preserve public peace, and secure national independence. There must be something more to hope than pleasure, wealth, and power. Something more to fear than poverty and pain. Something after death more terrible than death. **There must be religion.** When that ligament is torn, society is disjointed and its members perish. The nation is exposed to **foreign violence and domestic convulsion**. Vicious rulers, chosen by vicious people, turn back the current of corruption to its source. Placed in a situation where they can exercise authority by their own emolument, they **betray their trust. They take bribes. They sell statutes and decrees. They sell honor and office. They sell their conscience. They sell their country.** By this vile traffic they become odious and contemptible.... But the most important of all lessons is **the denunciation of ruin to every State that rejects the precepts of religion**" (pp. 10-11, 13, emp. added).

The religion to which Founder Morris referred is the Christian religion—to the exclusion of all others.

According to Founders like Morris, the general doctrines and moral principles of

the Christian religion must thoroughly permeate our civilization if our nation is to avoid "the denunciation of ruin." Otherwise, America will be subjected to violence inflicted by foreign enemies (terrorists?). And the nation will find itself in the throes of "domestic convulsion." Domestic convulsion? What better epithet to identify America's current national condition?

The key to securing America's future is simple and definitive: "May it be secured by a **pious obedience to that divine will**, which prescribes the moral orbit of empire with the same precision that his wisdom and power have displayed, in whirling millions of planets round millions of suns through the vastness of infinite space" (p. 24, emp. added). In the words of the inspired writers: "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people (Proverbs 14:34). "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord" (Psalm 33:12).

REFERENCES

- Morris, Gouverneur (1816), *An Inaugural Discourse, Delivered Before the New York Historical Society, 4th September, 1816; the 206th Anniversary of the Discovery of New-York, by Hudson* (New York: T. & W. Mercein), [On-line], URL: <http://digital.library.cornell.edu/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=nys;cc=nys;idno=nys004;view=toc;node=nys004%3A3>.
- "Morris, Gouverneur, (1752-1816)" (no date), *Biographical Dictionary of the United States*, [On-line], URL: <http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=M000976>.

United States Postal Service STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, and CIRCULATION Required by 39 USC 3685. 1. REASON AND REVELATION. 2. 1542-0922. 3. 9/20/07. 4. Monthly. 5. Annually: 12. 6. \$10.00. 7. 230 Landmark Dr., Montgomery, AL 36117. 8. 230 Landmark Dr., Montgomery, AL 36117. 9. PUBLISHER, Apologetics Press, 230 Landmark Dr., Montgomery, AL 36117; EDITOR, Dave Miller, 230 Landmark Dr., Montgomery, AL 36117; MANAGING EDITOR, Dave Miller, 230 Landmark Dr., Montgomery, AL 36117. 10. Non-profit Apologetics Press, Inc., 230 Landmark Dr., Montgomery, AL 36117. 11. Regions Bank, 320 Eastdale Mall, Montgomery, AL 36117. 12. No Change. 13. REASON AND REVELATION. 14. Oct '07 - Sept '08. 15. See Chart Below. 17. Thomas Hatfield, General Manager

I S.	Average	Actual Copies September 2008
A	4255	4060
B1	1594	1525
B2	68	70
B3	0	0
B4	1128	896
C	2790	2487
D1	850	850
D2	25	25
D3	0	0
D4	300	300
E	1175	1175
F	3965	3662
G	290	398
H	4255	4060
I	71%	68%



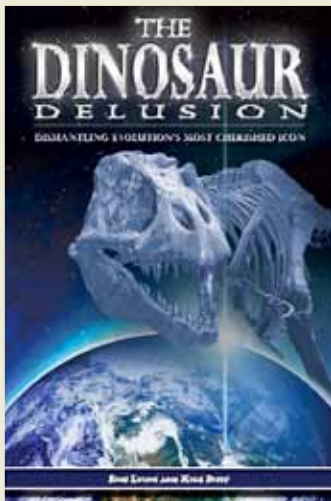
NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

APOLOGETICS
PRESS, INC.

NEW BOOK! *THE DINOSAUR DELUSION*

Dinosaurs have been at the forefront of the hostile takeover of American public schools by the teaching of evolution for the last half-century. Indeed, evolutionists have exploited these fascinating creatures in their ongoing strategy to capture the hearts and minds of the young. Three generations of Americans have now been thoroughly indoctrinated with the evolutionary propaganda of the elitist “scientific” community. Dinosaurs have played a prominent role in that force-feeding. For decades, dinosaurs have mesmerized children and entertained adults. Many, perhaps most, adults have assumed as true the long eons of time postulated by the theory of evolution and that dinosaurs lived and died long before humans ever lived.

We at Apologetics Press have long hoped for a book for adults that explains the place of dinosaurs from the biblical perspective—from the Genesis account of Creation to the experiences of Job. That hope has now been realized. We are delighted to announce the arrival of our latest scientific production: *The Dinosaur Delusion: Dismantling Evolution’s Most Cherished Icon*.



This monumental volume has two chapters that report the **historical** evidence for the co-existence of dinosaurs and humans. It has two chapters on the **physical** evidence for the co-existence of dinosaurs and humans. It has a chapter on the **biblical** evidence for the co-existence of dinosaurs and humans. Plus, it has chapters on the fossil record, whether humans could have survived when dinosaurs lived, the age of the Earth, and theories about what happened to the dinosaurs. Readers are enabled to see how dinosaurs fit perfectly into a straightforward reading of the biblical account of Creation.

There is nothing on the market like this book. Written in an engaging style, with full-color illustrations throughout, this book is a must-read for anyone interested in the field of Christian Evidences. It would certainly make an outstanding Christmas gift for your loved one or friend. Why not order yours today?

Dave Miller

See the Center Spread for Pricing